Major music exhibit to open at Wheaton Arts

From staff reports

Wheaton Arts and Cultural Center, 1501 Glasstown Road, Millville, will host an exhibit, "New Harmonies: Celebrating American Roots Music," in partnership with the New Jersey Council for the Humanities, from Tuesday through Dec. 31 in the Museum of American Glass.

An opening reception will be held at 5:30 p.m. Nov. 12. The exhibit tells the story of a nation through the music of its people.

Bringing together photographs, recordings, instruments, lyrics and artist profiles, this touring exhibition by the Smithsonian Institution explores the cultural identities of gospel, country, blues and other forms of roots music as they record the history of the American people and set the foundation for many musical genres appreciated worldwide today.

The following workshops and presentations on music and musical instruments will be held as part of the exhibit:

» "Make Your Own Paper Instruments," with Katherine Landberg, 1 to 3 p.m. Nov. 13 and 20;

» "Music Appreciation: Storytelling and Performance" with Jim Albertson, 1 to 3 p.m. Nov. 20;

» "Vitreous Music: The Making of Holiday Instruments in Glass" with Wheaton Arts' glass studio artists, Nov. 25-27;

» Instrument-making presentation: Appalachian dulcimer and Celtic harp, with David Field and mouth bow harp with Jim Albertson, 2 to 4 p.m. Dec. 4;

» Instrument-making presentation: Native American Drums with Mark "Quiet Hawk" Gould, 2 to 4 p.m. Dec. 11.

Two concerts also will be presented. The first, old-time country and bluegrass, will be presented at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 12 and will feature performances by Steve Byrne, BelAire Boys, The Towheads and The Snake Brothers.

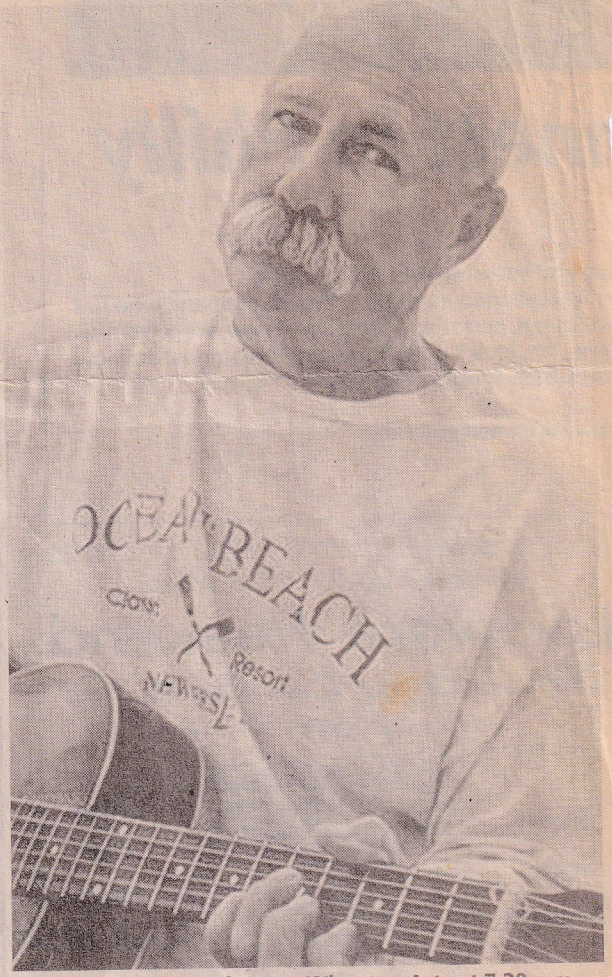
The second, old spirituals and gospel music, will be presented at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 10 and will feature performances by St. James AME Church Gospel Choir of Atlantic City, The Whittington Family of Port Norris and the South Jersey Community Men's Gospel Choir.

Concert tickets are $10 for adults, $9 for center members in advance or $15 at the door. Children 12 and younger will be admitted free but require a ticket.

Center hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday through Dec. 31. The center is closed Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.

Admission is $10 for adults, $9 for senior adults, $7 for students and free for children age 5 and younger; also all children age 17 and younger will be admitted free on Sundays through Dec. 18 through a PNC Arts Alive Grant.

Admission is free to shop or stroll except during outdoor special events. For tickets or information, call (856) 825-6800 or visit www.wheatonarts.org



Steve Byrne will perform at Wheaton Arts at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 12 as part of the special exhibit. SUBMITTED PHOTO